

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General
Go Green to Save Green Essay Contest
OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

INTRODUCTION:

The Go Green to Save Green Essay Contest (the "Essay Contest") is an important component of the Treasury's Go Green to Save Green Project. It has long been a Treasury initiative to encourage financial education throughout the Commonwealth and in particular, educate Commonwealth students about the importance of saving

Essay Questions may be distributed to students as soon as this document is received. Essays can be submitted to the Treasurer's Office as soon as the questions have been distributed with a deadline of **April 30, 2012.**

Essay Questions:

- I. How does recycling benefit the environment?
- II. Why is saving money important?

1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

- a. The Essay Contest is open to all students who are currently enrolled in a public or private elementary school in Massachusetts. For purposes of this Essay Contest, an "elementary school" is defined as a school with grades beginning at kindergarten up to 8th grade. Students K-8 may participate.
- b. With his/her essay(s), each student **must** submit a completed *Essay Contest Participation/Parental Consent Form* ("Form"). A completed form shall include the student's first and last name, complete address, city, state, zip code, date of birth, home telephone number, school name and address, and grade level. The parent or legal guardian of the student must also grant permission for his or her child to participate in the Essay Contest by signing the Form. Contestants are required to provide truthful information on this Form. The Treasurer's Office will reject any entries that it discovers to be false or fraudulent or which are submitted by students who do not meet the eligibility requirements. Essays submitted without an accompanying, properly completed Parental Consent Form will not be considered in connection with the Essay Contest.
- c. There is no limit to the number of students at each school who may participate and each student may submit responses to one (1) or both essay questions listed above.
- d. Each essay submission must be the original and creative work of the student who has submitted it and must not contain copyrighted materials or any other materials that may be restricted,

prohibited or outlawed by federal, state, or local laws. The Treasurer's Office has the absolute discretion to disqualify a submission based on its sole judgment. The Treasurer's Office, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to disqualify any entry if such Entry contains illegal, indecent or otherwise offensive material, or if such entry contains material whose content is deemed at the sole discretion of the Treasurer's Office to be unsuitable for the public Entries that do not comply with these rules will not be eligible.

2. HOW TO ENTER

To participate in the Essay Contest, students may enter by submitting their essay(s) along with a completed *Essay Contest Participation/Parental Consent Form* to the Treasurer's Office by one of the following method(s):

(1) **By Email:** Entrants may return their application to Sheila O'Loughlin, Financial Education Coordinator, at soloughlin@tre.state.ma.us

(2) **By Mail:** Entrants may return their application by mail to:

Sheila O'Loughlin
Financial Education Coordinator
Office of the State Treasurer
State House, Room 227
Boston, MA 02133

(3) **By Fax:** Attn: Sheila O'Loughlin, Financial Education Coordinator, at (617) 248-0372

The Treasurer's Office is not responsible for lost, stolen, mangled, misdelivered, postage due, illegible, incomplete or late entries.

3. WINNER SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

- a. Decisions with respect to the contest are final.
- b. A panel of 3 employees of the Treasurer's Office will be chosen by the Treasurer to review the submissions and decide upon the winner from each school.
- c. If the school is participating in the recycling contest then winners will be contacted through the contest advisor at their elementary school. If the school is not participating in the recycling contest then the student will be contacted through the principal.
- d. Winners will be notified no later than 14 days after the submission due date, which is April 30, 2012.

4. PRIZES

- a. One student from each school will be selected to win the prize.

- b. Ten (10) essay winners will be chosen to attend and be recognized at the National Financial Capabilities Ceremony in June. ***Invited essay winners must be accompanied by a chaperone and provide written permission from their parents to their school prior to attending.***

5. CONDITIONS

- a. By participating in the Essay Contest, the winner(s) and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) agree to have their child's name, voice, or likeness used in any publicity material relating to this contest without additional financial or other compensation, and, where legal, to sign a publicity release confirming such consent prior to acceptance of the prize.
- b. The Treasurer's Office reserves the right to make changes in the rules of the Essay Contest, including the substitution of a prize of equivalent value, which will become effective upon announcement. If due to circumstances beyond the control of the Treasurer's Office, any competition or prize-related event is delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, the Treasurer's Office reserves the right, but not the obligation, to cancel or modify the contest and shall not be required to award a substitute prize.
- c. Failure to comply with the contest rules may result in a contestant's disqualification solely at the discretion of the Treasurer's Office.
- d. The Treasurer's Office is not responsible for typographical or other errors in the printing, the offering or the administration of the contest, or in the announcement of a prize.

6. PRIVACY/CONFIDENTIALITY

The Treasury shall hold in confidence and not disclose to any third party, either directly or indirectly, any information that is supplied hereunder and is not publicly available, except where such disclosure is appropriate in order to protect its respective rights in the event of a default or breach by the other party; or is otherwise required by law. The confidentiality obligations shall survive the term of the Contest. The provisions of this paragraph will only be applicable to the extent the Massachusetts Public Records Law permits and any disclosure by the Treasury pursuant to the Massachusetts Public Records Law shall not be considered a default by the State Treasury or subject the State Treasury to liability of any kind. The State Treasury shall have sole discretion as whether disclosing any information received in connection with the Contest is required under the Massachusetts Public Records Law.